

**BOARD FOR GEOLOGISTS AND GEOPHYSICISTS**

2535 CAPITOL OAKS DRIVE, SUITE 300A, SACRAMENTO, CA 95833-2926

TELEPHONE: (916) 263-2113

FAX: (916) 263-2099

E-mail: geology@dca.ca.govWebsite: www.dca.ca.gov/geology**TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES****September 7, 2001****2535 Capitol Oaks Drive, Suite 300A
Sacramento, CA 95833
(916) 263-2113****1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Robert Larson, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:02 AM.

2. INTRODUCTION OF NEW TAC MEMBER, MARTIN MIELE

Mr. Larson welcomed Martin Miele as a member of the Committee.

3. ROLL CALL TO ESTABLISH QUORUM

Robert Larson, Chair
Michael Hart
Brian Hirst
Martin Miele
Sharon Jasek Reid
Tony Sawyer
Roy Shlemon
Julia Turney

Others in attendance:

Paul Sweeney, Executive Officer
Tara Torok, Office Assistant
Gary Duke, Legal Counsel, Department of Consumer Affairs
Trinda Bedrossian, California Division of Mines and Geology
Theodore Smith, California Division of Mines and Geology

4. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Smith announced that the Department of Mines and Geology is soliciting applications for the position of Supervising Geologist. There will be 2-3 vacancies within the next 1-2 years. The deadline to apply is 9/24/01. Please encourage interested persons to apply.

In regards to agenda item 9, Ms. Bedrossian would like to discuss licensing concerns at the appropriate time.

5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF JUNE 22, 2001

Mr. Shlemon moved to approve as corrected the minutes of the Technical Advisory Committee meeting on June 22, 2001.

Mr. Sawyer seconded.

The motion passed unanimously.

6. DISCUSSION OF TAC'S ROLE, AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF CHAIR AND MEMBERS

Mr. Larson explained the committee's role and responsibilities to Mr. Miele.

7. REPORT ON BOARD MEETING OF AUGUST 3, 2001

Mr. Sweeney reported:

The Board requested comments pertaining to administering licensing examinations once a year instead of twice a year.

An enforcement action was posted on the website and the Enforcement Report was presented to the Board.

The Board was presented with statistical information regarding attendance and pass rates for the Spring 2001 exams.

The Board continues discussions with all departments regarding REALIs and mitigating the alleged unlicensed practice of geology.

An enforcement action, an enforcement complaint flow chart, and a link to the Department of Consumer Affairs Privacy Policy were posted on the website.

The committee discussed concerns with administering the licensing examinations once a year instead of twice a year and with staggering exam locations throughout the state.

Ms. Turney moved to recommend to the Board that the examinations be given twice a year but at only one location. The location should alternate between northern and southern California.

Mr. Hirst seconded.

The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Larson expressed concerns that the Registered Geologists examination administered by the National Association of State Boards of Geology (ASBOG) has become easier and that standards may have been lowered. Licensees may be less prepared to act in a professional manner. If so, better enforcement action must be the counter. However, due to the Board's financial constraints, the Board may be reducing its enforcement actions thus lowering its ability to protect the public.

Ms. Turney disagreed. She believed that the exam has improved due to its broad, consistent testing of the field of geology.

8. REPORT ON SB 136, INTRODUCED BY SENATOR FIGUEROA

Mr. Sweeney reported that the Revised Act has been removed from Senate Bill 136 and thanked everyone for their work on the project.

Ms. Turney commented that it would be helpful to circulate fee increase information to the public.

9. REVIEW OF REQUEST FROM THE BOARD TO WORK WITH THE STATE MINING AND GEOLOGY BOARD ON FOREST GEOLOGY ISSUES

Ms. Bedrossian announced that the State Mining and Geology Board's Geohazards Committee will be forming a Technical Advisory Committee on Forest Geology to address the technical and policy issues related to geologic studies on forested lands.

Mr. Shlemon moved to recommend to the Board membership consideration of Mr. Hart and Mr. Larson to the Technical Advisory Committee on Forest Geology.

Mr. Sawyer seconded.

The motion passed unanimously.

10. RECOMMENDATION TO BOARD ON THE PROPER USE OF THE BOARD'S SEALS AND LICENSEES' SIGNATURES (MANUAL AND/OR DIGITAL) ON GEOLOGIC AND NON-GEOLOGIC REPORTS

The committee voiced its concerns regarding the proper use of the Board's seal and licensees' signatures and discussed draft language prepared by Ms. Turney. Various changes were made.

Mr. Sawyer moved to recommend to the Board to accept the proposed language.

Mr. Miele seconded.

The motion passed by majority. (Aye- Hart, Hirst, Sawyer, Turney, Miele. Abstain- Shlemon)

11. RECOMMENDATION TO BOARD ON ADOPTION OF CHANGES TO PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

The committee discussed draft language prepared by Mr. Sawyer and Ms. Turney. Various changes were made.

Mr. Larson urged committee members to read the Disciplinary Guidelines.

Mr. Hart moved to recommend to the Board that they assign the TAC to undertake writing guidelines for geologic practices within the state of California.

Mr. Shlemon seconded.

The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda item will be revisited at the next meeting.

12. TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Larson reported he may not be able to attend the Board meeting on 9/28/01.

13. SCHEDULE AGENDA ITEMS FOR NOVEMBER 16, 2001 MEETING

Mr. Larson noted the committee will continue discussing the Code of Professional Standards.

14. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Smith announced that the Division of Mines and Geology is reviewing existing guidelines and staff will be updating maps.

15. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

16. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Larson adjourned the meeting at 2:20 PM.

ROBERT LARSON, Chair

PAUL SWEENEY, Executive Officer

Date Approved: November 16, 2001